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GUJARAT WITHDRAWS 10 CASES LINKED TO PATIDAR AGITATION

The withdrawal of cases over the 2015 stir for quota comes months ahead of the state election set to be held in December

CURIOUS TIMING TO ARREST VOTE BANK DRIFT

It comes a day after influential Patidar leader Naresh Patel, who is reportedly mulling a political entry, met Congress leaders. The Patidars, who have traditionally backed the BJP, were seen drifting away to rivals since the 2015 stir. The party has been trying to woo back the community. Last year, it gave the state CM's post to Patidar leader Bhupendra Patel

THREAT OF ANOTHER STATEWIDE AGITATION

- Congress leader Hardik Patel, who led the stir in 2015, has threatened another statewide protest from March 25, if the government does not scrap all cases against Patidar members
- During the 2015 agitation for quota, the police registered 485 cases against people belonging to the Patidar community | P10

140

CASES LINKED TO QUOTA AGITATION PENDING BEFORE COURTS

CHENNAI • MADURAI • VIJAYAWADA • BENGALURU • KOCHI • HYDERABAD • VISAKHAPATNAM • COIMBATORE • KOZHIKODE • THIRUVANANTHAPURAM • BELAGAVI • BHUBANESWAR • SHIVAMOGGA • MANGALURU • TIRUPATI • TIRUCHY • TIRUNELVELI • SAMBALPUR • HUBBALLI • DHARMAPURI • KOTTAYAM • KANNUR • VILLUPURAM • KOLLAM • TADEPALLIGUDEM • NAGAPATTINAM • THRISSUR • KALABURAGI

SCIENCE FIRST: NAVEEN'S BODY TO AID RESEARCH

CM receives mortal remains at KIA, thousands attend last rites

G SUBHASH CHANDRA @ Chalageri

EMBRACING and kissing her son Naveen Gyanagoudar for one last time before handing over the body to the anatomy section of SSIMS and Research Centre at Davanagere, Vijayalakshmi's grief knew no bounds. Tears gushed out of her eyes when doctors told her to perform the last rites before his mortal remains were taken away to be embalmed at the research centre.

The family had taken a decision a few days ago to donate the body to the centre to help promote research. Vijayalakshmi and her elder son Harsha travelled from Chalageri to Davangere with the body and were inconsolable while conducting a puja and handing over the mortal remains to the hospital on Monday. The body will be completely embalmed at the research centre on Tuesday.

In the absence of Naveen's father Shekharappa, the relatives consoled the grieving mother and took her back to Chalageri.

Earlier, the body of Naveen, a medical student killed at Karkhiv city in Ukraine in the Russia-instigated war on March 1, arrived at the Kempegowda International Airport around 3 am. It was received by Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and Shekharappa. The body was then transferred from the coffin to a freezer box and taken to Chalageri.

Naveen's mortal remains were kept at his home for public viewing and the last rites were conducted as per Veerashiva Lingayat traditions with hundreds of people from the village and surroundings paying their last respects. P4

Residents and villagers from surrounding areas take part in a procession carrying Naveen Gyanagoudar's body, at Chalageri village, Haveri district, on Monday | EXPRESS

'LOOKING TO ACCOMMODATE 700 UKRAINE STUDENTS'

Health and Medical Education Minister Dr K Sudhakar on Monday said that the State Government is facilitating the continuation of education of about 700 Ukraine-returned medical students in 60 medical colleges across Karnataka, and a high-level panel has been formed to look into the future of these students. This follows a meeting between the minister and the students at Vidhana Soudha. P4

Govt to get Swiss a/c data of Salgaocars soon

SHAHID FARIDI @ New Delhi

THE government of India will soon receive details of money held in Swiss accounts by the powerful Salgaocar family of Goa. The Swiss Federal Court has ordered that India be supplied with the information it requested.

Industrialists Mukesh and Anil Ambani's sister, Deepti, is married into the Salgaocar family. The details sought by the Indian government concern accounts held by trusts whose main beneficiaries are Deepti Salgaocar's two children.

The Salgaocar family had been locked in a long legal battle in Switzerland to prevent India's tax authorities from getting details of trusts set up by the family in that country. India's ministry of finance had requested details of these trusts about eight years ago. The court has finally ruled in favour of transmitting the requested data.

Deepti Salgaocar's daughter Isheta Salgaocar is married to Neeshal Modi, brother of Nirav Modi, who was declared a fugitive economic offender after he and his uncle Mehul Choksi were found involved in a scam involving alleged defrauding of banks of ₹14,000 crore.

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STASH OF HINDUJA BROTHERS TO BE OUTED

Among the other big names whose Swiss bank account details are expected to be released, too, are that of the Hindujas, a leading Indian business family. Sources said information on Swiss accounts of the Hinduja brothers is expected in a matter of days.

CHINA
Crash site: Near Wuzhou city
Kunming
Guangzhou
132
FEARED DEAD IN CHINA PLANE CRASH
A Boeing 737-800 aircraft crashed in China's Guangxi province on Monday, likely killing all 132 on board
DGCA has put Boeing 737 fleets of Indian carriers on "enhanced surveillance". SpiceJet, Vistara and Air India Express have B-737s
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MEKEDATU ISSUE

K'taka slams resolution in TN Assembly

ENS @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka government took strong exception to the resolution moved in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly against the state's effort to construct a balancing reservoir at Mekedatu. CM Basavaraj Bommai took to social media on Monday and criticised the Tamil Nadu government's move. He said the resolution passed in the TN assembly is against the law. "It's an anti-people resolution in which one state is snatching away the rights of another. The resolution shows that Tamil Nadu does not believe in the federal system. The people of Karnataka and the government strongly condemns the resolution," he tweeted.

He said the government is steadfast on implementing the project. "It is related to the Cauvery which originates from the state. As per the Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal, 177.25 tmcft of water should be provided to Tamil Nadu and the state has the right over the remaining water. Without considering the political decision of Tamil Nadu, the government will take all necessary steps for the project," he added.

EXPRESS READ

Speeding garbage truck mows down 14-year-old

BENGALURU: A 14-year-old girl was killed, while a biker and another pedestrian were injured, after a speeding garbage truck knocked them down in Hebbal on Monday. The garbage truck driver, Manjunath, has been arrested | P2

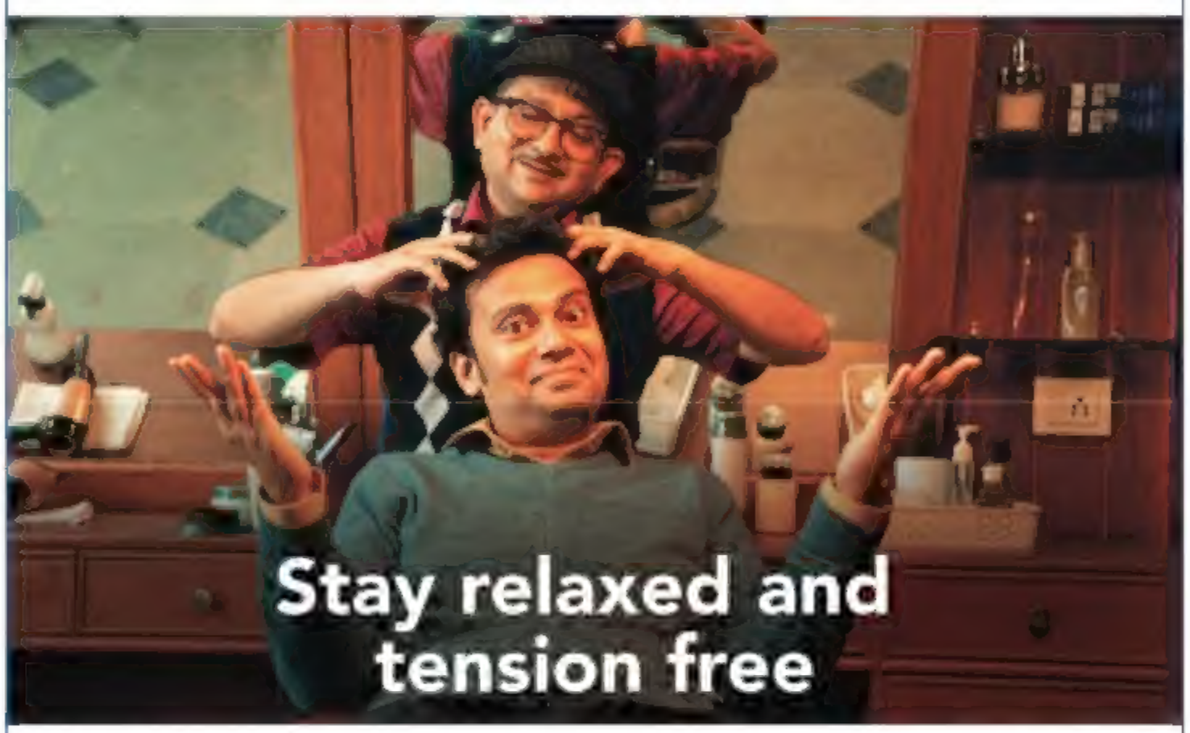
Dhami, Sawant to remain CMs for 2nd term

Dehradun/Panaji: Pushkar Singh Dhami and Pramod Sawant will be the CMs of Uttarakhand and Goa for a second term after the BJP on Monday weighed in favour of ability to perform under pressure ahead of the 2024 polls | P9

'Fuel prices hiked by 80 paise after 4-mth gap'

New Delhi: Retail price of petrol and diesel will see an increase from Tuesday after a four-month hiatus, according to Reuters. Both petrol and diesel prices will go up by 80 paise per litre, the news agency reported quoting dealers

HDFC MUTUAL FUND
BHAROSA APNO KA



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